means for transmitting the input data to a network location remote from the destination device based on the request.

17. (New) The system of claim 15, further comprising:

means for converting the input data to a format based on the request.

18. (New) The system of claim 15, further comprising:

means for transmitting status information in response to a status request.

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated November 29, 2001, the Examiner rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 5,996,029 to Sugiyama et al. Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 15-18 have been newly added. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced by new claims 15-18. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully traverse the above rejection of claims 1-14 and submit that claims 1-18 are patentable over Sugiyama et al.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sugiyama et al. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-14 are not anticipated by Sugiyama et al.

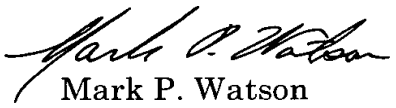
To anticipate claims 1-14 under § 102(e), Sugiyama et al must disclose each and every limitation of the claims. Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 14 recite, *inter alia*, "initiating transmission of input data by notifying the destination device that data is ready for transmission." To teach this limitation, the Examiner relies on Figures 23 and 26 and col. 31, lines 1-32 of Sugiyama et al. (Office Action, p.3). In particular, Sugiyama et al teaches data transfer using a DATASTROBE signal, ACKNOWLEDGE (ACK) signal, and a BUSY signal. Col. 31, ll. 1-4. Sugiyama et al further teaches that the DATASTROBE signal indicates that data is outputted to a DATA line; the BUSY signal indicates that the printer is currently operating and the data cannot be received or that the data buffers are fully occupied; and the ACK signal indicates that reading of the data is correctly completed. Col. 31, ll. 5-11. These signals, however, are not used to notify a destination device that data is ready for transmission as recited in the claims.

Therefore, Sugiyama et al fails to anticipate claims 1-14 because Sugiyama et al fails to disclose at least "initiating transmission of input data by notifying the destination device that data is ready for transmission" as recited in the claims. Given that claims 2-4, 6-8, and 10-12 depend on claims 1, 5, and 9 respectively, claims 2-4, 6-8, and 10-12 are not anticipated by Sugiyama et al for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 5, and 9.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 15 is not anticipated by Sugiyama et al. Like claims 1, 5, 9, 13, and 14 claim 15 also recites, *inter alia*, "initiating transmission of input data by notifying the destination device that data is ready for transmission," which is not disclosed by Sugiyama et al. Therefore, for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 5, 9, 13 and 14, claim 15 is not anticipated by Sugiyama et al. Given that claims 16-18 depend from claim 15, claims 16-18 are not anticipated by Sugiyama et al for at least the same reasons as claim 15.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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